

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, please amend the title as follows:

METHOD FOR ATTACHING A FENCE RAIL TO A SUPPORT CAP-BRACKET
ASSEMBLY

On page 2, line 1, please amend the title as follows:

METHOD FOR ATTACHING A FENCE RAIL TO A SUPPORT CAP-BRACKET
ASSEMBLY

On page 2, starting on line 3, please replace the full paragraph with the following:

This application is a division of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/277,721, filed October 21, 2002, entitled "FENCE RAIL CAP BRACKET ASSEMBLY", which is a continuation of ~~co-pending~~ U.S. Patent Application No. 10/138,722, filed May 3, 2002, entitled "FENCE RAIL CAP BRACKET ASSEMBLY," which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/288,359, filed May 3, 2001, entitled "FENCE RAIL CAP BRACKET ASSEMBLY" which are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their entireties, including but not limited

to those portions that specifically appear hereinafter, the incorporation by reference being made with the following exception: In the event that any portion of the above-referenced applications are inconsistent with this application, this application supercedes said above-referenced applications.

Starting on page 12, line 3, please replace the full paragraph with the following:

Referring now to FIG. 3, there is shown another perspective view of the U-bracket 12, the retention clip 30 and the cap 40, from the opposite side of the assembly 10 as shown in FIG. 1, with the addition of a rail 50 residing the U-bracket 12. The teeth 41 on the retention clip 30 may mesh with the complementary teeth 39 which form a catch on the back wall 20 of the U-bracket 12. The complementary teeth 39 may be positioned on a rear face of the back wall 20, whereas the first wall 14, the second wall 16 and the bottom wall 18 may form support for the rail 50 on the front face of the back wall 20. The retention clip 30 may be slid into position after a rail 50 is placed in the U-bracket 12. The second portion 34 of the retention clip 30 may be slid into the recessed area 64 of the U-bracket 12. The teeth 41 of the retention clip 30 may slide over the complementary teeth 39 on the U-bracket 12. Prongs 35 of the retention clip 30 may have

elastic memory which allows the prongs 35 to flex. Once the teeth 41 of the prongs 35 pass over the complementary teeth 39 on the U-bracket, the prongs 35 may flex back to their original position and the teeth 41 on the prongs 35 of the retention clip 30 may mesh with the complementary teeth 39 of the U-bracket 12 such that the teeth 41 thereby engage with the complementary teeth 39 of said U-bracket 12. Therefore, in accordance with the forgoing, the prongs 35 are resilient to enable them to flex, and in addition said prongs 35 possess elastic memory to enable them to flex back to their original position as so described in the forgoing. The retention clip 30 may be attached to a rail 50 or other horizontal member by passing a screw 24 (shown in FIG. 1) through the hole 36 of the retention clip 30 and attaching the screw 24 to said rail 50.